



PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE FEBRUARY 28, 2014

TESTIMONY RE: SB #36

SUBMITTED BY CHRISTINE ZARB, APRN-BC

OWNER/OPERATOR OF COMPLEXIONPERFEXION, LLC

Senator Gerratana, Representative Johnson, and Members of the Committee:

I am a Nurse Practitioner and owner/operator of a small boutique medspa in Wilton, CT. I run my medspa four days per week and one day per week I work in my collaborating physicians' office. I am writing to declare my strong support of Governor's Bill #36 to remove the collaborative agreement mandate between Physicians and Advanced Practice Registered Nurses (APRN's). The current mandate for a collaborative agreement is a practice hardship for APRN's in CT. It impedes APRN's from opening independent practices. For those of us who have opened independent practices, if our collaborating physician dies, retires, or severs the agreement it renders our practices illegal. We are then forced to close our business. For me specifically, I am constantly worried that one day my collaborating physician will sever our agreement or retire. This constant worry inhibits me from growing my practice.

Supporting this bill not only improves access to care, but it also supports small business growth in CT. When the medspa bill almost passed last year it was very sobering. I stopped all growth until it was vetoed, thankfully. After it was vetoed I felt a little more confident about the future, so I hired a CT based contractor to expand my spa, and hired a CT based website designer to redesign my website. I also spent more money on marketing and medical supplies. This year I am starting to advertise utilizing local media.

I am currently poised for more growth, which would include hiring one employee, but I am hesitant to bring on another individual when I am currently in a precarious position myself, having to rely on the whims of another individual (my collaborator). The mandate for the collaborative agreement is a huge disincentive to open or expand a small business in CT.

To support SB #36 is to support small business in CT!